



AFPA BULLETIN:

AFPA Secures Overseas Compensation for Employees

30 April 2010

PROFESSION **EMPLOYMENT** WELFARE LIFE

The AFPA has been steadfastly calling for AFP employees deployed on overseas missions to have similar compensation arrangements to the military. With the support of the Police Federation of Australia, we extracted a commitment in 2007 from the then Opposition leader Kevin Rudd that Labor would address this anomaly if elected to Government. The AFPA has met regularly with relevant Government Ministers and Departmental officials to progress this matter.

Two days ago the Prime Minister announced an expansion of AFP numbers in Afghanistan whilst compensation arrangements for AFP employees were still uncertain. As a result the AFPA CEO Jim Torr again raised members concerns in the media and directly with Commissioner Negus. On Wednesday night the AFPA CEO received a fax from the Minister for Home Affairs, Brendan O'Connor updating him in regards to compensation entitlements for members of the AFP serving overseas in high risk missions.

Please see [this link](#) below to read the letter from the Minister.

In summary, an interim scheme has been put in place to provide AFP members serving overseas access to enhanced benefits. The scheme will afford each member a percentage increase in any payment made under the Safety Rehabilitation Compensation Act 1988 (Cth) (SRCA) and will allow AFP members to access compensation similar to that which would be received under the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004(Cth)(MRCA) for similar risk. The Minister advises that this percentage increase will be in the order of 45-50%.

There is no doubt that this has been a protracted matter that is at last coming to a successful conclusion for AFPA members and indeed all AFP employees. This outcome is a direct result of continuous, persistent and sometimes dogged lobbying by the AFPA in the face of resistance from various interest groups that did not want to see AFP employees receive the same benefits as the ADF. Despite the delays in this issue we acknowledge Minister Brendan O'Connor's strong support to achieve this important outcome.

If you have any comments on this bulletin or any other queries please contact your local representatives or the AFPA National Office on afpa.office@afpa.org.au.

Authorised by

Jon Hunt-Sharman, President, Australian Federal Police Association